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A PLEA FOR PEACE.

But why *talk* forever? What shall we DO? In regard to this present war, we can refuse to take any part in it; we can encourage others to do the same; we can aid men, if need be, who suffer because they refuse. Men will call us traitors, what then? That hurt nobody in '76! We are a rebellious nation: our whole history is treason; our blood was attainted before we were born; our Creeds are infidelity to the Mother-church; our Constitution treason to our father-land. What of that? Though all the Governors in the world bid us commit treason against Man, and set the example, let us never submit. Let God only be a Master to control our Conscience!

We can hold public meetings in favor of Peace, in which what is wrong shall be exposed and condemned. It is proof of our cowardice that this has not been done before now. We can show in what the infamy of a nation consists; in what its real glory. One of your own men, the last summer, startled the churches out of their sleep, by his manly trumpet, talking with us and telling that the true grandeur of a nation was Justice, not glory, Peace, not war.

We can work now for future times, by taking pains to spread abroad the Sentiments of Peace, the Ideas of Peace, among the people in schools, churches—every where. At length we can diminish the power of the National Government, so that the people alone shall have the power to declare war, by a direct vote—the Congress only to recommend it. We can take from the Government the means of war by raising only revenue enough for the nation's actual wants, and raising that directly, so that each man knows what he pays, and when he pays it, and then he will take care that it is not paid to make him poor and keep him so. We can diffuse a real practical Christianity among the people, till the mass of men have courage enough to overcome evil with good, and look at war as the worst of treason and the foulest infidelity!

Now is the time to push and be active. War itself gives weight to words of peace. There will never be a better time, till we make the times better. It is not a day for cowardice, but for heroism. Fear not that the "honor of the nation" will suffer from Christian movements for Peace. What if your men of low degree are a vanity, and your men of high degree are a lie? That is no new thing. Let true men do their duty, and the lie and the vanity will pass each to its reward. Wait not for the Churches to move, or the State to become Christian. Let us bear our testimony like men, not fearing to be called Traitors, Infidels; fearing only to BE such.

I would call on Americans, by their love of our country, its great ideas, its real grandeur, its hopes, and the memory of its fathers—to come and help save that country from infamy and ruin. I would call on Christians, who believe that Christianity is a Truth, to lift up their voice, public and private, against the foulest violation of God's law, this blasphemy of the Holy Spirit of Christ, this worst form of infidelity to Man and God. I

would call on all men, by the one nature that is in you, by the great human heart beating alike in all your bosoms, to protest manfully against this desecration of the earth, this high treason against both Man and God. Teach your rulers that you are Americans, not Slaves; Christians, not Heathen; Men, not murderers, to kill for hire! You may effect little in this generation, for its head seems crazed and its heart rotten. But there will be a day after to-day. It is for you and me to make it better; a day of peace, when nation shall no longer lift up sword against nation; when all shall indeed be brothers, and all blest. Do this—you shall be worthy to dwell in this beautiful land; Christ will be near you; God work with you—and bless you forever! *Rev. T. Parker's Sermon.*

WOMAN AND WAR.

While the sad notes of war are sounding in our ears, they are mingled with the eloquence of the peace-loving and true hearted, entreating every one to use his influence to allay its spirit. As these appeals come home to us, causing the heart to beat with quicker pulsations, the question arises, what can *woman* do? To answer it, we look upon society as it is, and back to the infancy and childhood of those who are now upon the stage of active life, giving tone to public sentiment, and composing the elements of the nation's voice, and the reply comes with solemn sadness,—“What might she not have done had she realized her high trust and been true to it? Had she felt that her highest and holiest mission was to imbue the young hearts whom her influence might reach, with the principles of truth and love, of justice and forbearance, of meekness and humility?” Had this been the unceasing aim of the Mothers and daughters of our land in time that has passed, Oh! what a glorious beacon-light would our country now be to all the nations of the earth! No unbridled passions, no deeds of violence, no acts of oppression, no false principles of glory or honor, would have stained its annals.

Such might have been the influence of woman over the character of the present. But she has not been true to it. It now becomes her, to do what has been undone. Woman may thus extinguish, if she will, the spirit of warfare and all wrong in coming time. She may not escape the retributions of the ignorance or negligence of the past. But while her heart is wrung with agony at the awful thought of slaughtered friends and foes, whose mingled blood cries to heaven of her country's crimes, let her remember that this is the result of woman's neglected duty.

Let it inspire her with an unconquerable purpose that children and